

## PATENT

Serial No.: 09/845,057  
Attorney Docket No. 68146988.715

**REMARKS**

Applicants again thank Examiner Tang for his time spent with Applicants during the telephonic interview on February 23, 2006. Claims 1, 3, 4, 17, 18, 20-26, and 28-43 are pending in this application, of which claims 1, 18, 23, 26 and 36 are independent. All claims have been amended in this Reply. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

**I. CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 USC § 103**

Claims 1, 3, 4, 18, 20, 21, 23, 24, 36-38, and 40-42 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0023108 A1 to Daswani et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,802,042 to Rangan et al. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's rejection of the claims over Daswani in view of Rangan, at least because Daswani is directed to a service in which subscribers can enjoy faster web browsing through the service's monitoring of sites visited and the service's storage and retrieval of form data, *see* ¶¶ 11-21, and Rangan is directed to providing Internet users with information concerning their on-line activities, *see* col. 3, line 7 – col. 4, line 34. In contrast, the present claims are directed to improving the performance efficiency of a multiple-user enterprise by eliminating redundant tasks among enterprise users and facilitating sharing of data and tasks between enterprise divisions. In an effort to advance prosecution, Applicants have amended the claims to clarify the enterprise aspect of the disclosure. In view of these clear differences, the Daswani and Rangan references cannot be applied to reject the amended claims under 35 USC § 103, which provides:

A patent may not be obtained . . . if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which the subject matter pertains . . . (emphasis added)

Thus, when evaluating a claim for determining obviousness, all limitations of the claim must be evaluated. In this respect, neither Daswani nor Rangan teaches or suggests at least “an enterprise-wide computer portal system electrically connected to a plurality of enterprise computer systems and configured to communicate with at least one enterprise user through a

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network interface" as recited in the claims. Indeed, the Daswani and Rangan references only relate to services for individual users, and fail to teach or suggest an enterprise arrangement as claimed.

Furthermore, Daswani does not teach a service broker that controls the disposition of jobs within an enterprise-wide computer portal system as recited in amended independent claims 1, 18, 23 and 26. The Office Action references the subscription server of Daswani as disclosing the service broker of the claims. However, as Daswani does not disclose the disposition of jobs within an enterprise-wide computer portal system, it logically follows that no entity can be tasked with controlling such disposition of jobs. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the subscription server of Daswani does not teach or suggest the service broker as claimed.

In addition, neither Daswani nor Rangan teaches a job repository comprising a computer memory encoded with a plurality of objects including at least one job, the at least one job having at least one set of job properties, wherein said set of job properties includes a set of input data as recited in the amended claims. The only repository discussed in Daswani is a *data* repository, ¶ 37. Likewise, the only repository discussed in Rangan is a *data* repository, col. 3, lines 33-34. It is well known to a person skilled in the relevant art that a *job* describes an executable object, while *data* describes that upon which a job can operate. This understanding can be appreciated from the claim terminology which uses the claim term *job* in the context of execution. Furthermore, paragraph 51 of Applicants' specification clearly defines the term "job" to be "[a]n executable program and its associated files" and therefore any disputes as to the meaning of the term "job" must be resolved in favor of Applicants' definition. MPEP 2111.01 states that "[w]here an explicit definition is provided by the applicant for a term, that definition will control interpretation of the term as it is used in the claim. *Toro Co. v. White Consolidated Industries Inc.*, 199 F.3d 1295, 1301, 53 USPQ2d 1065, 1069 (Fed. Cir. 1999)." Accordingly, Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's use of a data repository to teach the claimed job repository.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the amended independent claims 1, 18, 23, 26, and 36 are patentably distinct from the teachings of Daswani and Rangan, either alone or in combination. As dependent claims 3-4, 17, 20-22, 24-26, 28-35 and 37-43

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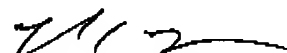
depend from and further limit their respective independent claims, these dependent claims are in condition for allowance as well.

## II. CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or believes that an additional telephone conference would further prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the number set forth below. A petition for a one month extension of time is enclosed. Please charge any shortage in fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 13-0480, Attorney Docket No. 68146988.715, and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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